

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY FULTON

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING FEES FOR EXCESSIVE FALSE ALARMS AS PROVIDED IN CHAPTER 18, "EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND EMERGENCY SERVICES," ARTICLE II, "ALARM SYSTEMS," SEC. 18-41, "ENFORCEMENT OF PROVISIONS," OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SANDY SPRINGS

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 18, Article II, Sec. 18-34, et seq. ("Ordinance") of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Sandy Springs, Georgia ("Code"), civil penalties may be assessed against an alarm user and alarm business for each false alarm to summon public safety departments in Sandy Springs ("City") and for violations of other parts of the Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, it is important to enforce the Ordinance through civil penalties in order to reduce and recoup costs to the City for emergency response to false alarms that could have been prevented; and

WHEREAS, in 2016 emergency response to false fire and police alarms cost the City approximately \$775,939; and

WHEREAS, last year there were 974 false fire alarms, costing the City \$657,450 at approximately \$675 per dispatch; and

WHEREAS, last year there were 9,292 false police alarm calls, costing the department roughly 4,424 man hours totaling approximately \$117,943; and

WHEREAS, the Ordinance provides that such civil penalties shall be in amounts established by resolution of City Council.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANDY SPRINGS, GEORGIA, AND IT IS RESOLVED BY THE AUTHORITY OF SAID CITY COUNCIL AS FOLLOWS:

The City of Sandy Springs Mayor and City Council hereby authorize the imposition of the following fees in connection with excessive false alarms as provided in Sec. 18-41 of the Code, failure of an alarm company to register as provided in Sec. 18-39(b), failure of an alarm company to notify the City prior to putting an alarm in operation as provided in Sec. 18-39(c), failure of an alarm company to provide a valid permit number to emergency dispatchers as provided in Sec. 18-39(e), failure of an alarm company to maintain or make available records as provided in Sec. 18-39(f), failure of an alarm company to timely notify the alarm administrator of changes in its alarm user database as required in Sec. 18-39(m), installation of a single action non recessed button for duress alarms as prohibited in Sec. 18-40(e), and unlicensed installation or repair of alarm systems as prohibited in Sec. 18-40(f).

1. Penalties against the Alarm Business for Excessive False Alarms to Summon Police or Fire Department:
 - (a) First False Alarm No Charge
 - (b) Second and Third False Alarm \$250 each
 - (c) Fourth and over False Alarm \$500

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2. Penalties for violations of other provisions of the Ordinance pursuant to Sec. 18-41(e), "Enforcement of Provisions":
- (a) Failure of an Alarm Company to register and/or provide the City with a list of all current alarms in operation within the corporate limits of the city \$500 each occurrence
 - (b) Failure of an Alarm Company to notify the City prior to putting an alarm in operation \$500 each occurrence
 - (c) Failure of an Alarm Company to provide a valid permit number to emergency dispatchers \$500 each occurrence
 - (d) Failure of an Alarm Company to maintain or make available records \$500 each occurrence
 - (e) Failure to timely notify the alarm administrator of changes to the Alarm Company's list of Alarm Users \$500 each occurrence
 - (f) Installation of a single action non-recessed button for holdup or panic alarms \$500 each occurrence
 - (g) Unlicensed installation or repair of alarm systems \$500 each occurrence

RESOLVED this the 16th day of May, 2017.

Approved:

Russell K. Paul, Mayor

Attest:

Michael D. Casey, City Clerk

(Seal)